

NEWS RELEASE

Judd Gregg

United States Senator for New Hampshire
393 Russell Building, Washington, D.C. 202-224-3324 www.senate.gov/~gregg/

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:



September 4, 2003

Contact: Erin Rath/Jeff Turcotte

SENATOR GREGG ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR CONSTRUCTION OF NEW FEDERAL BUILDING AT PEASE, TRANSFER OF MCINTYRE BUILDING TO PORTSMOUTH

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH) today announced that he has included several provisions in the Fiscal Year 2004 Transportation, Treasury and General Government appropriations measure which would provide the General Services Administration the resources to purchase land at the Pease International Tradeport and construct a new building for the federal offices currently located in the McIntyre Building in downtown Portsmouth. The bill was approved by the full Senate Appropriations Committee this afternoon. Senator Gregg also announced he has included language that will allow the City of Portsmouth to acquire the McIntyre Building in order for its redevelopment. The measure is now ready for consideration by the full Senate later this fall.

The bill specifies that the GSA will be authorized to acquire approximately 27 acres at 234 Corporate Drive, Pease International Tradeport to construct a federal building that will house the former tenants of the McIntyre Building. The \$11,149,000 provided in Fiscal Year 2003 for the renovation of the McIntyre Building will be reprogrammed for construction of a new facility, along with a new appropriation of \$13,669,000 for a total cost of \$24,818,000.

Senator Gregg stated, "The creation of a new federal building at the Pease International Tradeport is a win for everyone involved. The City of Portsmouth will have the unique opportunity to redesign valuable downtown acreage for the benefit of its residents and visitors. Whether the City ultimately chooses to utilize the location as open space, a variety of retail services or an addition to the wide array of Federalist period architecture in the area, the City will significantly improve its downtown area.

"The transfer of many of the essential services offered at the McIntyre Building stands as a testament to the tremendous growth being experienced at the Pease International Tradeport. For those doing business at the new building, it will offer increased convenience with ample parking and a convenient location. I would like to congratulate everyone who has put in considerable effort to make these plans a reality and I am pleased to offer my assistance to this worthwhile endeavor."

- more -

Portsmouth Mayor Evelyn Sirrell stated, "Senator Gregg's leadership role in bringing about the transfer of the McIntyre federal building to the City of Portsmouth gives us an opportunity of a lifetime. Redevelopment of that property will not only bring it back on the tax rolls, but enable us to consider re-use plans that meet a range of local needs. And I promise you that any redevelopment

plans for the McIntyre property will involve working very closely with the entire community. In short, Senator Gregg has come through for this City yet again.”

Peter Hamelin, President of the Greater Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce, stated, “The Seacoast business community owes a great deal to Senator Gregg for his timely response and leadership in bringing the right people together to come to a win-win compromise on the McIntyre Building proposal. Returning that location to the Portsmouth community will help create a more positive economic and social engine for downtown businesses and the entire seacoast region. As Portsmouth continues to evolve and grow, developing this space to compliment the character of our community will add energy to the downtown environment, providing long-term health for local businesses, enhanced quality of life for residents and enjoyment for visitors to Portsmouth.”

#